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Possession is treated in the logical order beginning with finding and developing the subject through lien to the well defined *jus in rem* of the pledge. Ownership in like manner proceeds from mere taking of possession, through adverse possession, to the acquirement of title by accession, confusion, judgment and gift. Fixtures have been taken from their old position in real property and are given just after ownership. The volume closes with a chapter on emblements.

The book has what most teachers will consider decided improvements in editing; namely, omission of names and arguments of attorneys, and frequent elisions of matter in the opinions that does not help to bring out the principle of law involved in the cases. Such omissions are indicated by stars. The editor frequently rewrites the statements of facts. This matter and any other additions to the text of the decisions are enclosed in brackets.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature of the new editing is the departure from the chronological order in the printing of the cases and their presentation on some logical order of development in the several sub-topics. This saves the time of the student in working out the logic of the law and makes it easier to arrive at a clear statement of what the principle of law is, but some of us regret that it takes from both instructor and student the joy of discovery, particularly that wicked joy of depraved human nature in noting the blunders and vacillations of the courts in their progress toward the truth.

The presentation of the subject of possession before that of ownership also shows this swing from the historical to the logical method, but we have the assurance of the editor that this method of approach has been found preferable in his large experience in teaching the subject.

As evidence of the independent working over of all the cases by the editor it may be noted that only about one-fifth of the cases used in the old case books appear in the body of this volume and the new cases used indicate most careful discrimination on his part and a selection of those that have been practically tested and found to develop the principles in the best way.

Any criticism of the new method of presentation prior to a class room test of the volume is liable to dribble off into subjective "it seems to me" and "I think so." It is evident that the tendency of the best modern case books is toward this greater stress upon the systematic presentation in accordance with some logical principle of development. The present volume is a welcome addition to our instrumentalities for making the practical test of the efficiency of this method.

JOSEPH H. DRAKE.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF TORTS. By H. Gerald Chapin, L.L.M., St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1917. Pp. xiv, 695.

This book, one of the "Hornbook Series," with its accompanying case-book edited by the author, is of course intended primarily for student use. In schools using the case method these books obviously could not form the basis of the instruction; but in those schools using a combination of text and illustrative cases they will be found very useful. And though not designed particularly for the use of the practitioner, the book under review

will be found, because of its clear statement of principles, and well selected cited cases, indeed very helpful.

As an independent subject "Torts" is so new and the growth of the law in many of the topics included therein has been so rapid that text-books well done are welcome additions to the literature upon the subject. Professor Chapin has made a real contribution. Though lacking the charm of Mr. Salmond's delightful little book and the keen analysis of Sir Frederick Pollock's work, this book, it is believed, is entitled to be ranked with the very best of the short treatises on the law of torts.

The arrangement of topics is quite similar to that adopted in the standard books. This is, first, a consideration of the general principles of tort liability and of the defenses that are common throughout the field. Under this head is included very appropriately the matter of parties. There follows a discussion of the specific torts.

Not only are the familiar, landmark cases referred to and in many instances commented upon, but recent cases showing the development and trend of the law are intelligently selected from out of the mass of decisions and cited. Frequent reference is made to the worth while periodical literature.

RALPH W. AIGLER.

THE LAW OF EMINENT DOMAIN, by Philip Nichols. Albany, N. Y. Matthew Bender & Co., 1917. Pp. cclii, 1577.

The first edition of this work the author confined to the narrow field of the constitutional principles underlying the law of eminent domain, that is the taking of private property for a public use. After eight years he recognizes that these limits prevented the work from being of much practical value to the average lawyer dealing with condemnation cases who usually was most concerned with matters of procedure and compensation. Accordingly this second edition is enlarged to two volumes, with almost four times as much matter, and attempts to cover all phases of the law of eminent domain.

This is a field that has been well worked by other writers in recent years, but the excellence of the present work justifies its appearance notwithstanding. The presentation is clear, full and suggestive. While the author is inclined to conservatism and often deplores departures from the good old principles of the common law, he nevertheless recognizes that changes in the law are necessary because of social and industrial progress and resulting changes in the relations between the public and private owners of land. Though some of the text of the first edition appears with little change in the second (compare, for example, "What constitutes a taking," Sections 52 ff. of the first edition with Section 108 ff. in the second) yet the bulk of the text has been entirely rewritten or consists of additional matter not appearing at all in the first edition. Even where the text of the first edition is incorporated in the second it is usually amplified and extended to cover new ground. Five new chapters are added on procedure. The book in its present form will not only maintain the reputation of the first edition with the bench by which it has often been quoted, but will now be of immediate practical value to the lawyer in his practice.

EDWIN C. GODDARD.